

LITTER FACTS

ADOT spends an average of \$2.3 million per year and uses between 65,000 and 70,000 labor hours to pick up litter in Arizona.

In 2005, ADOT picked up 85,594 bags of litter from the Maricopa County freeway system.

Litter found on freeways includes food cartons, Styrofoam cups, napkins, plastic utensils, snack-food wrappers, matches, soft drink bottles and cans, paper bags, tissues, plastic sheets, film, boxes, clothes, newspapers, magazines, metal foil, anti-freeze and motor oil containers, grease, paint thinner, tires and much more.

Keep America Beautiful cites seven primary sources of litter:

1. Trucks with uncovered or unsecured loads on local roads and highways
2. Pedestrians or cyclists who do not use the receptacles
3. Motorists who do not use car ashtrays or litterbags
4. Business dumpsters that are improperly covered
5. Loading docks and commercial or recreational marinas with inadequate waste receptacles
6. Construction and demolition sites without tarps and receptacles to contain debris and waste
7. Household trash scattered before or during collection

Debris on roadways nationwide causes 25,000 accidents each year and more than 80 fatalities. Between 1999 and 2001, Arizona reported 5 fatal accidents due to road debris

Littering can cost drivers and their passengers a misdemeanor fine of \$500 in the State of Arizona.

ADOT has 2,200 Adopt a Highway volunteers and over 100 companies in sponsoring litter clean up efforts statewide.

If you witness someone littering, you can call the litter hotline. In the Phoenix area, call 602.712.4683. Outside of Phoenix, call toll free at 1.877.3LITTER.



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